

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOMBAY 01515 082119Z

63

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 DRC-01 RSC-01 /017 W

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R 081030Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4554

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS BOMBAY 1515

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, IN

SUBJ: INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY - A BOMBAY FIRM SEEKS US
PARTICIPATION TO MANUFACTURE EXPLOSIVES

REF: 10 FAM 948

1. MR.J.D. GANDHI, TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, THE
WESTERN INDIA MATCH COMPANY LIMITED (WIMCO), INDIAN
MERCANTILE CHAMBERS, NICOL ROAD, BALLARD ESTATE, BOMBAY
400 001 HAS EVINCED INTEREST IN AMERICAN PARTICIPATION TO
MANUFACTURE INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIVES IN INDIA.

2. WIMCO'S PROJECT ENVISAGES SETTING UP AN INTEGRATED
INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIVES PLANT WITH AN ANNUAL CAPACITY OF
25-30,000 METRIC TONS AND 20 MILLION METERS OF FUSES.
PRODUCT MIX WILL INCLUDE NITROGLYCERINE, AMMONIUM
NITRATE-BASED EXPLOSIVES, SLURRIES, DETONATORS AND FUSES.
GOI HAS INFORMALLY APPROVED WIMCO'S PROPOSAL. FIRM
SEEKING AMERICAN PARTNER TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW AND
TO PARTICIPATE IN EQUITY, IF THE LATTER DESIRES. MR.GANDHI
SCHEDULED TO VISIT EUROPE IN EARLY AUGUST AND AGREEABLE TO
VISIT US SHOULD THERE BE INTEREST FROM AMERICAN FIRMS.

3. COMMENT: CURRENT INDIAN PRODUCTION CAPACITY FOR
INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIVES IN 42,000 M. TONS SHARED BETWEEN TWO
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INDIAN FIRMS HAVING FINANCIAL/TECHNICAL COLLABORATION WITH

DOW CHEMICALS COMPANY, MIDLAND, MICHIGAN AND IMPERIAL
CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LONDON, RESPECTIVELY. CURRENTLY
PRODUCTION APPROXIMATELY 32,000 M.TONS. DEMAND BY
1978/79 ESTIMATED AT 60,000 M.TONS REQUIRING PRODUCTION
CAPACITY OF 67,000 M. TONS. ACCORDING TO GOI'S GUIDELINES
FOR INDUSTRIES 1974-75 "SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGICAL GAPS
EXIST FOR MANUFACTURE OF INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIVES. PROPOSALS
FOR FOREIGN COLLABORATION ARE CONSIDERED ON MERITS".

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT SOUND POTENTIALLY
QUALIFIED FIRMS CONCERNING THE FOREGOING PROPOSAL. POST
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A LISTING OF SUCH FIRMS FOR
MR.GANDHI ASAP.
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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